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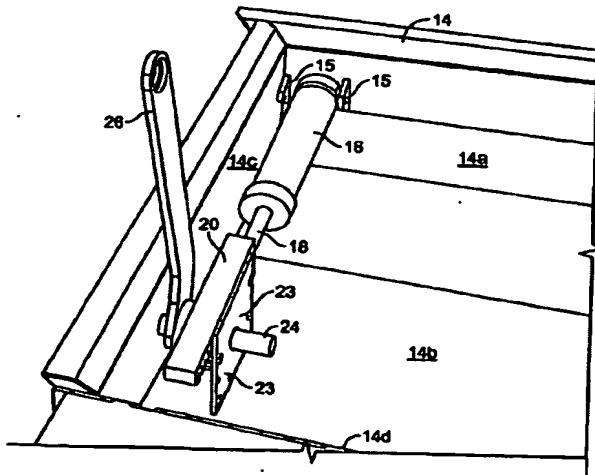
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Declaration under Rule 4.17:

— *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only*

*[Continued on next page]*

(54) Title: DRIVE APPARATUS FOR A MOBILITY ACCESS DEVICE



(57) Abstract: A linear drive system for reversibly operating a wheelchair ramp or other mobility access device is provided. The drive system for the mobility access device includes an actuator and a drive apparatus coupled thereto for moving the access device or portion thereof. The actuator, which may be a hydraulic cylinder, electric actuator or the like, has a linearly moving arm that cooperates with the drive apparatus including a gear rack and a spur gear. The gear rack is coupled to the moving arm and mates with the spur gear that rotates on a shaft in response to the linear movement of the moving arm. A drive link is coupled with the spur gear for pivoting about the shaft to deploy and stow the access device.

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**Box No. VIII (iv) I DECLARATION: INVENTORSHIP** (only for the purposes of the designation of the United States of America)  
*The declaration must conform to the following standardized wording provided for in Section 214; see Notes to Boxes Nos. VII, VIII (i) to (v) (in general) and the specific Notes to Box No. VIII (iv). If this Box is not used, this sheet should not be included in the request.*

**Declaration of inventorship (Rules 4.17(iv) and 51bis.1(a)(iv))  
for the purposes of the designation of the United States of America:**

I hereby declare that I believe I am the original, first and sole (if only one inventor is listed below) or joint (if more than one inventor is listed below) inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought.

This declaration is directed to the international application of which it forms a part (if filing declaration with application).

This declaration is directed to international application No. PCT/US2004/033643..... (if furnishing declaration pursuant to Rule 26ter).

I hereby declare that my residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated next to my name.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified international application, including the claims of said application. I have identified in the request of said application, in compliance with PCT Rule 4.10, any claim to foreign priority, and I have identified below, under the heading "Prior Applications," by application number, country or Member of the World Trade Organization, day, month and year of filing, any application for a patent or inventor's certificate filed in a country other than the United States of America, including any PCT international application designating at least one country other than the United States of America, having a filing date before that of the application on which foreign priority is claimed.

Prior Applications: .....

I hereby acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is known by me to be material to patentability as defined by 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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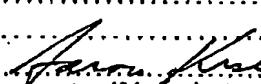
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This declaration is continued on the following sheet, "Continuation of Box No. VIII (iv)".